

## Message Text

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USCINCEUR  
USLOSACLANT  
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 136885

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO

SUBJECT: ALTERNATIVE PROCEDURES FOR SPRING DEFENSE REVIEW

REF: USNATO 3120

1. WE AGREE ON NEED FOR SOME MECHANISM FOR KEEPING SUPPORTING PROGRAMS UNDER REVIEW BUT WOULD WANT TO TAKE ALL ASPECTS INTO ACCOUNT BEFORE ACCEPTING ANY FINAL SOLUTION. WE ARE PARTICULARLY CONCERNED THAT DRC EMPHASIS ON SPRING REVIEW OF NATIONAL SUPPORTING PROGRAMS (AS DIFFERENTIATED CONFIDENTIAL

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FROM NATO SUPPORTING PROGRAMS) MAY DETRACT FROM BROADER NATO JOB OF DECIDING HOW TO APPROACH ITS QTE COOPERATIVE UNQTE TASK (EUROGROUP PROCUREMENT PROPOSAL, STANDARDIZATION, INTEROPERABILITY, RATIONALIZATION, BROADER USE OF COMMON

PROGRAMS, ETC.). IN SUPPORTING REGIONAL APPROACH TO ANALYSIS AND REVIEW OF DEFENSE EFFORT, MISSION SHOULD EXPRESS US WILLINGNESS TO EXPAND REVIEW COVERAGE OF NATIONAL SUPPORTING PROGRAMS IN EXISTING FALL DEFENSE PLANNING REVIEW ALONG WITH US PREFERENCE FOR USE OF ANNUAL SPRING REVIEW FOR COVERAGE OF COOPERATION AND COMMON PROGRAMS ON A BROADER FRAMEWORK THAN THAT ENCOMPASSED BY DRC TERMS OF REFERENCE.

2. AS GENERAL BACKGROUND AND AS A POSSIBLE FRAME OF

REFERENCE FOR DISCUSSION, WE SEE NATO DEFENSE AS CONSISTING OF THE THREE ELEMENTS: (A) NATIONAL FORCES ALONG WITH NATIONAL SUPPORT PROGRAMS, (B) THE NATO SUPERSTRUCTURE OF HEADQUARTERS (BOTH CIVIL AND MILITARY), COMMUNICATIONS AND AGREED PROCEDURES, FOR DIRECTION AND CONTROL OF THE FORCES IN A NATO DEFENSE EMERGENCY, AND (C) THE NATO FACILITIES OR INFRASTRUCTURE THAT SUPPORT THE OPERATIONS OF THE FORCES UNDER NATO. TO THIS BASIC RELATIONSHIP OF FORCES, SUPERSTRUCTURE AND INFRASTRUCTURE MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE ADDED A FOURTH ELEMENT, THAT OF COOPERATION AMONG NATIONS IN MAINTAINING AND IMPROVING NATO DEFENSE AND BETWEEN THE MILITARY AND CIVIL SECTORS IN EACH NATION IN TIME OF DEFENSE EMERGENCY.

3. ANNUAL FALL DEFENSE PLANNING REVIEW CLEARLY CARRIES TITLE FOR REVIEW OF NATIONAL PROGRAMS FOR SUPPORT OF NATIONAL FORCES AND COULD BE EXPANDED AS DESIRED TO COVER NATIONAL SUPPORTING PROGRAMS IN GREATER DEPTH. HOWEVER, WE WOULD NOT WISH TO DEVOTE SPRING SEASON TO CONTINUED REVIEW OF NATIONAL EFFORTS, THEREBY PRECLUDING DETAILED COVERAGE OF NATO SUPPORTING PROGRAMS IN SPRING. WE THINK SPRING REVIEW SHOULD DEAL WITH STATUS OF NATO SUPERSTRUCTURE, INFRASTRUCTURE AND PROGRESS IN NATO COOPERATION, AS THESE TERMS HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED ABOVE.

4. WE HAVE NO OBJECTION TO DISCUSSION WITHIN DRC OF  
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BROADER PROBLEM OF ANNUAL REVIEW (INCLUDING BOTH FALL AND SPRING SESSIONS) OF DEFENSE PROBLEMS AND PROGRAMS OVERALL, INCLUDING NATO COOPERATIVE EFFORTS. HOWEVER, WE UNDERSTAND SECRETARY GENERAL LUNS HAS INVITED ASG TUCKER TO RECOMMEND A NATO APPROACH TO THE BROAD PROBLEM OF STANDARDIZATION AND COOPERATION, AND DRC DISCUSSION OF JUNE 12 SHOULD BE ONLY EXPLORATORY WHEN IT RANGES BEYOND THE FALL REVIEW OF NATIONAL FORCES (AND NATIONAL SUPPORTING PROGRAMS).

5. AS AN ADDITIONAL POINT, WE BELIEVE THERE SHOULD BE AN ANNUAL REPEAT ANNUAL SPRING REVIEW OF NATO SUPPORTING PROGRAMS (SUPERSTRUCTURE, INFRASTRUCTURE AND COOPERATION

IN ARMAMENTS AND LOGISTICS AS DEFINED ABOVE) TO COMPLE-  
MENT THE ANNUAL FALL REVIEW OF NATIONAL FORCES AND  
NATIONAL SUPPORT PROGRAMS, SO THAT THERE CAN BE AN  
ANNUAL APPRAISAL OF NATO DEFENSE AS AN ENTITY. WE DO NOT  
BELIEVE THAT THE REVIEW OF NATO'S SUPPORTING PROGRAMS  
SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT ONLY EVERY SECOND YEAR WHEN THE DRC  
IS NOT INVOLVED IN DRAFT MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE, PARTICU-  
LARLY SINCE A MUCH BROADER RANGE OF NATO ACTIVITY THAN  
THAT ENCOMPASSED BY THE DRC WOULD BE CONCERNED. KISSINGER

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